

Did You Know...

PARKING LOTS – FALL PREVENTION

Do Parking Lots Pose Special Hazards?

Even though you may not be conducting your job in a parking lot, there is still a possibility that you could be injured walking to and from your vehicle, specifically from slips, trips and falls.

What Factors Contribute to Fall Incidents in a Parking Lot?

Heavy use by both pedestrians and vehicle traffic, weather conditions and general wear and tear can lead to deterioration of the parking lot surfaces resulting in various hazards.

How to Eliminate or Mitigate Hazards in a Parking Lot

To keep parking lots safe, ensure there is adequate lighting, general housekeeping is conducted, and that there are clear marking of steps, ramps, curbs, speed bumps, and other elevation changes. Also verify that drains or grates are cleared from debris to avoid flooding, and that the area is plowed/salted/sanded in the winter months.

Parking lots, drive ways, lane ways, and sidewalks should all be included during the monthly workplace inspection.

What Responsibilities Do Workers Have in Parking Lots?

Safety is everybody's duty, so workers as much as employers should:

- Be aware of surroundings– continuously scan the area to watch for cars as well as fall hazards.
- Never assume that the driver will see you
- Clean or report spills right away.
- Clear away clutter and debris, if possible.
- Wear appropriate footwear for the situation (e.g., non-slip footwear in the winter).
- Report hazardous conditions to supervisors.
- Remain vigilant, and remember that falls can happen anywhere, anytime.

